

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-48. (CANCELLED)

49. (ORIGINAL) A method of conditioning flowing fluid comprising the steps of:

generating a temperature gradient in a thermoelectric device between one surface and an opposing surface; and

flowing fluid along first and second heat exchangers formed about an axis and configured such that the fluid flows along the first heat exchanger and along the second heat exchanger generally away from the axis, the first heat exchanger in thermal communication with the one surface, and the second heat exchanger in thermal communication with the opposing surface, wherein at least one of the first and second heat exchangers are formed to provide thermal isolation in the direction of fluid flow between a plurality of segments of the at least one heat exchanger.

50. (ORIGINAL) The method of Claim 49, further comprising rotating the heat exchangers and thermoelectric device about the axis during operation, the heat exchangers operating to induce fluid flow through the heat exchangers.

51. (ORIGINAL) The method of Claim 49, wherein the heat exchangers and thermoelectric device are stationary, further comprising generating fluid flow along at least one of the first and second heat exchangers by rotating an auxiliary fan about the axis.

52. (ORIGINAL) The method of Claim 49, wherein at least one of the first and second heat exchangers is formed in segments to provide the thermal isolation in the direction of fluid flow.